



New Jersey Department of Children and Families Policy Manual

Manual:	NJAC	NJ Administrative Code Excerpts	Effective Date:
Title	10	Human Services	
Chapter	122D	Services For Children In Out-Of-Home Placement	12/2/2008
Subchapter:	1	Visits Between The Child And The Child'S Family	
Section	1	Purpose (N.J.A.C. 10:122D-1.1)	

§10:122D-1.1 Purpose

(a) The purpose of this subchapter is to ensure that each child placed by the Division in out-of-home placement shall have the opportunity to visit with parents, siblings and interested relatives. Visits with parents, siblings and other relatives may serve to:

1. Reinforce the child's identity;
2. Promote the child's need for stability, consistency, and permanency;
3. Maintain or establish family relationships;
4. Assess the parent's and other relative's motivation and ability to care for the child;
5. Provide an opportunity to model appropriate parenting behavior and skills; and
6. Facilitate the case goal of return home.

(b) The frequency and duration of visits are dependent on the purpose of the visits, the case goal and case plan and practical considerations of all parties. Visits that are frequent and of long duration are beneficial for most children placed in out-of-home placement and facilitate movement toward achieving a case goal that establishes permanency. The frequency and duration specified in each child's visitation schedule is a professional social work decision, which shall be made by the Division representatives, with full input from all those affected by the visitation plan. Unless otherwise limited by conditions set forth in N.J.A.C. 10:122B-1.4 and 10:122D-1.15, for most children in out-of-home placement, the goal is to hold a visit every week for a period as long in duration as possible.

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